

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image processing apparatus comprising:
  - a sortation memory portion provided in a form of a virtually sorted, prescribed memory area to store information sorted by each prescribed condition for said prescribed condition;
  - 5 an information adding portion adding additional information to said sortation memory portion;
  - an acquisition portion acquiring from a different image processing apparatus information including additional information;
  - 10 a comparison and display portion comparing the additional information acquired by said acquisition portion from said different image processing apparatus with the additional information added by said information adding portion to said sortation memory portion, and displaying similar additional information; and
  - 15 a registration portion selectively registering one of the additional information displayed by said comparison and display portion and the additional information added by said information adding portion to said sortation memory portion.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein when the additional information registered by said registration portion is identical to a prescribed item included in the additional information acquired by said acquisition portion from said different image processing apparatus, said  
5 information adding portion adds to said sortation memory portion information of a destination of a link, said information of the destination of the link being information of an access to a sortation memory portion included in said different image processing apparatus.
3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein said information adding portion further includes an input portion inputting a name serving as said additional information, and said prescribed item is a name.

4. An image processing apparatus comprising:  
a sortation memory portion provided in a form of a virtually sorted,  
prescribed memory area to store sorted information;  
an information adding portion adding additional information to said  
5 sortation memory portion;  
an acquisition portion acquiring from a different image processing  
apparatus information including additional information;  
a comparison portion comparing the additional information acquired  
by said acquisition portion from said different image processing apparatus  
10 with the additional information added by said information adding portion to  
said sortation memory portion to acquire a result of said comparing; and  
a registration portion driven by said result to register the additional  
information added by said information adding portion to said sortation  
memory portion.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said information adding  
portion adds to said sortation memory portion additional information  
acquired from a different apparatus.

6. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said information adding  
portion further includes an input portion inputting a name serving as said  
additional information and adds to said sortation memory portion a name  
input via said input portion.

7. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said acquisition portion  
acquires from said different image processing apparatus information  
including additional information added to a sortation memory portion of  
said different image processing apparatus and information of a date and  
5 time of registration of said additional information with said different image  
processing apparatus.

8. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said information adding  
portion further includes a supplementation portion supplementing the

additional information added to said sortation memory portion and said registration portion registers additional information supplemented by said  
5 supplementation portion.

9. The apparatus of claim 4, further comprising a display portion displaying information including additional portion acquired by said acquisition portion from said different image processing apparatus.

10. The apparatus of claim 4, further comprising a result display portion displaying said result of said comparison provided by said comparison portion, wherein said registration portion further includes a select portion selecting additional information to be registered from said  
5 result displayed by said result display portion.

11. The image processing apparatus comprising:  
a sortation memory portion provided in a form of virtually sorted, prescribed memory area to store information of an original sorted by identification information;  
5 a registration portion registering information with said sortation memory portion;  
a notification portion notifying a different image processing apparatus of information registered by said registration portion;  
an acquisition portion acquiring from said different image processing  
10 apparatus information of an original sorted stored in said different image processing apparatus at a sortation memory portion having registered therewith information identical to information imparted by said notification portion; and  
a storage portion storing to said sortation memory portion  
15 information of an original acquired by said acquisition portion from said different image processing portion.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said acquisition portion acquires from said different image processing apparatus information

including at least one of information stored by said registration portion to  
said different image processing apparatus's sortation memory portion,  
5 information of an access to said different image processing apparatus, and a  
name identifying said sorted information.

13. An image processing apparatus comprising:  
a sortation memory portion provided in a form of a virtually sorted,  
prescribed memory area to store sorted information;  
an information adding portion adding additional information to said  
5 sortation memory portion;  
an acquisition portion acquiring from a different image processing  
apparatus information including additional information;  
a decision portion deciding whether there exists in the image  
processing apparatus of interest additional information added by said  
10 information adding portion to said sortation memory portion that is  
identical to additional information acquired by said acquisition portion from  
said different image processing apparatus; and  
an erasure portion driven by a result of a decision made by said  
decision portion and the additional information acquired by said acquisition  
15 portion from said different image processing apparatus to erase said  
information stored in said sortation memory portion that is associated with  
the additional information acquired by said acquisition portion from said  
different image processing apparatus.

14. An image processing apparatus comprising:  
a sortation memory portion provided in a form of a virtually sorted,  
prescribed memory area to store information of an original sorted by  
additional information added to an image of the original;  
5 a detection portion detecting that said additional information has at  
least a portion designated;  
an erasure portion erasing from said sortation memory portion  
additional information detected by said detection portion as having been  
designated and said information of the original with said additional

10 information added thereto; and  
a notification portion notifying a different image processing  
apparatus of said additional information erased by said erasure portion.

15. An additional-information notification system comprising a plurality of image processing apparatuses each including:

a sortation memory portion provided in a form of a virtually sorted, prescribed memory area to store sorted information;

5 an information adding portion adding additional information to said sortation memory portion;

a first notification portion notifying a different image processing apparatus of said additional information added by said information adding portion to said sortation memory portion;

10 a decision portion deciding whether there exists in said image processing apparatus additional information identical or similar to additional information imparted by said first notification portion from a different image processing apparatus;

15 a second notification portion notifying of a result of a decision made by said decision portion said different image processing apparatus notified by said first notification portion of said additional information; and

a registration portion driven by said result informed by said second notification portion from a different image processing apparatus to register with said image processing apparatus of interest said additional  
20 information added by said information adding portion to said sortation memory portion.

16. An additional-information notification system comprising a plurality of information processing apparatuses including first and second image processing apparatuses, said first and second image processing apparatuses including:

5 a sortation memory portion provided in a form of a virtually sorted, prescribed memory area to store sorted information;

an information adding portion adding additional information to said

sortation memory portion;

10 an identification information production portion producing  
identification information identifying information stored in said sortation  
memory portion having said additional information added thereto;

a transmission portion transmitting to said first image processing  
apparatus said identification information produced by said identification  
information production portion;

15 a reception portion receiving identification information transmitted  
by said transmission portion from said second image processing apparatus;

a first storage portion driven by said additional information added by  
said information adding portion to said sortation memory portion to store to  
said sortation memory portion said identification information received by  
20 said reception portion from said second image processing portion;

a select portion selecting said identification information stored by  
said first storage portion to said sortation memory portion;

25 a request portion driven by said identification information selected  
by said select portion to request information stored in said second image  
processing apparatus at said sortation memory portion;

a return notification portion operative in response to a request from  
said first image processing apparatus by said request portion to return to  
said first image processing apparatus said information stored in said  
sortation memory portion; and

30 a second storage portion storing to said sortation memory portion  
said information returned by said return notification portion from said  
second image processing portion.

17. An image information communication system comprising an  
image processing apparatus and a communication terminal, said image  
processing apparatus including:

5 a sortation memory portion provided in a form of a virtually sorted,  
prescribed memory area to store sorted information;

a notification portion notifying said communication terminal of  
identification information used to identify information stored in said

sortation memory portion;

10 an instruction reception portion receiving a printing instruction from said communication terminal; and

a transmission portion driven by said printing instruction received by said instruction reception portion from said communication terminal to transmit to a different image processing apparatus said information stored in said sortation memory portion.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein said communication terminal includes:

5 a memory portion storing said identification information; and  
an instruction portion driven by said identification information stored in said storage portion to identify information to be printed, and issue said printing instruction to said image processing apparatus.

19. The system of claim 17, wherein said instruction reception portion and said transmission portion perform communication in different manners of communication.

20. An image processing method comprising the steps of:  
adding additional information to a sortation memory portion provided in a form of a virtually sorted, prescribed memory area to store information sorted by each prescribed condition for said prescribed condition;

5 acquiring from a different image processing apparatus information including additional information;

10 comparing the additional information acquired from said different image processing apparatus at the step of acquiring with the additional information added to said sortation memory portion at the step of adding, and displaying similar additional information; and

selectively registering one of the additional information displayed at the step of comparing and displaying and the additional information added to said sortation memory portion at the step of adding.

21. An image processing method comprising the steps of:  
adding additional information to a sortation memory portion  
provided in a form of a virtually sorted, prescribed memory area to store  
sorted information;

5       acquiring from a different image processing apparatus information  
including additional information;

      comparing the additional information acquired from said different  
image processing apparatus at the step of acquiring with the additional  
information added to said sortation memory portion at the step of adding;

10       and

      registering said additional information added to said sortation  
memory portion at the step of adding, as based on a result of a comparison  
made at the step of comparing.

22. An image processing method comprising the steps of:  
registering information with a sortation memory portion provided in  
a form of a virtually sorted, prescribed memory area storing information of  
an original sorted by identification information;

5       notifying a different image processing apparatus of information  
registered at the step of registering;

10       acquiring from said different image processing apparatus the  
information of the original sorted stored in said different image processing  
apparatus's sortation memory portion having registered therewith  
information identical to that imparted at the step of notifying; and

      storing to said sortation memory portion said information of the  
original acquired from said different image processing apparatus at the step  
of acquiring.

23. An image processing method comprising the steps of:  
detecting that additional information added to an image of an  
original is at least partially designated;

5       erasing from a sortation memory portion said additional information  
detected as having been designated at the step of detecting and information



of the original having said additional information added thereto, said  
sortation memory portion being a virtually sorted, prescribed memory area  
storing information of an original sorted by additional information added to  
an image of the original; and

- 10        notifying a different image processing apparatus of said additional  
information erased at the step of erasing.